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reasons "why they have not been recorded." The details under this head certainly show Rome second to no city upon earth in the number, variety, and affluence of its institutions and agencies for the relief of want and suffering. Our author gives us nearly as favorable a view of the state and institutions of education ; he describes the penitentiary system as not only improved in discipline, but as connected with wise plans and faithful endeavors for the reformation and higher life of the criminals ; and he shows us that beyond a doubt there is, on the part of numerous bodies of ecclesiastics, (and these would of course be the least apt to fall in the way of foreign heretics,) a very earnest religious zeal, manifested equally in their devotional habits and in their labors for the true welfare of their community. We hope that this book will be generally read, both because it tells much concerning Rome which we are not likely to learn elsewhere, and because it does needed and merited justice to the influence and power of our common Christianity under what we deem the superstitions and falsities of the dominant Church.

27.—*Italian Legends and Sketches.* By J. W. CUMMINGS, D. D., of New York. New York: Edward Dunigan and Brother. 1858. 12mo. pp. 275.

THIS book is a miscellany, in prose and verse, containing in part descriptions of things as they are, in part popular legends recast in the author's own imagination, and revivified by his rich and active fancy. They will be read with interest, the rather because, like the last-named book, they occupy ground with which Protestants have no first-hand familiarity ; and they will confer valuable assistance in acquiring a better knowledge of Italy, and a more candid and veracious estimate of what the Roman Church is, essays, and does in her own peculiar domicile.

28.—*Appletons' Cyclopædia of Drawing, designed as a Text-Book for the Mechanic, Architect, Engineer, and Surveyor, comprising Geometrical Projection, Mechanical, Architectural, and Topographical Drawing, Perspective, and Isometry.* Edited by W. E. WORTHEN. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1857. 8vo. pp. 410. Plates 102.

THIS is a great and important work of its kind. Commencing with the modes, instruments, and canons of simple geometrical projection, it

describes the methods of delineating structures of every description, and enters into the details of every department of the art of drawing, as practised by the mechanic, machinist, architect, surveyor, and topographer. Yet more, it enters into the scientific principles involved in the exercise of these various professions, the strength and disposition of materials, the laws and postulates of machinery, the styles of architecture, the details of architectural arrangement and construction, the forms of specifications for masons and builders, and the theory of perspective. The plates, and the still more numerous wood-cuts, are executed in the highest style of art, and the volume is one of surpassing beauty no less than of essential utility. The publishers, in their series of Dictionaries and Cyclopaedias, have shown their liberal and forecasting enterprise in issuing such works as cannot be easily superseded, but must hold the first place, till the unanticipated discoveries and improvements of coming generations shall set them aside.

29.—*History of the Inductive Sciences, from the Earliest to the Present Time.* By WILLIAM WHEWELL, D. D., Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. The Third Edition, with Additions. In two volumes. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1858. 8vo. pp. 566, 648.

MANY of our readers have long been familiar with this most thorough and comprehensive of scientific histories, and with its companion treatise, "The Philosophy of the Inductive Sciences," which finds the matrices and germs of these sciences in the native structure, laws of thought, intuitive conceptions, and innate ideas of the human mind. The "History" ought to be read by every one who would acquire a systematic knowledge of the progress of the race; while the "Philosophy" might demand for its comprehension habits of abstract thought and metaphysical research. We rejoice in this republication. It is worth scores of cheap and superficial compends. It will enlighten, where they only confuse and bewilder. It will impart solid knowledge, of which they give only the glimmerings and fragments. It should have its place in every library worthy of the name.